

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-2181
Glen Esk
Ward Drive
Towson, Baltimore County
1903
Public

Constructed in 1903 for John J. Nelligan, Glen Esk is currently the Counseling Center for Towson University. The property was purchased in 1915 by the state of Maryland for use as a residence by the University's presidents. The county educational system benefited from the 1866 organization of the State Normal School, now known as Towson University, which was established by an act of Assembly in 1865. The school, devoted to the education of teachers for public schools, was originally located in Baltimore City. It moved to Towson in 1915. The Counseling Center was established in 1966 and was relocated to Glen Esk in 1971. Currently, the Counseling Center contains thirteen offices, a library, reception room, and staff lounge and provides mental health services to over 15,000 students.

Constructed in 1903 as a Colonial Revival-style dwelling, the building was rehabilitated circa 1971 to serve as the Counseling Center. The building is located on the 328-acre campus and is surrounded by academic buildings for the university. Set on a random rubble stone foundation, the house rises two-and-a-half stories in height. It has been reclad with vinyl German siding. Slate tiles adorn the hipped roof. Tuscan columns support a one-story wrap-around porch with an added ramp for the disabled adjoining the southern portion. The central entry features a panel-and-light single-leaf entry, multi-light leaded sidelights, and a divided three-light transom. A 1/1 vinyl replacement window lies to the south of the entry and a three-sided canted bay sits to the north, holding three 1/1 vinyl replacement windows. At the second story, the central bay is marked by a three-sided canted bay, like that on the first story. It is flanked by 1/1 replacement windows. A gabled dormer, featuring a pediment, pilasters, and a 1/1 vinyl replacement window, rests on the eastern roof slope. Three interior brick chimneys with corbeled caps rise above the crest of the roof. The icehouse dates to the last half of the 19th century.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-2181

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Glen Esk (preferred)
other Towson University Counseling Center

2. Location

street and number Ward Drive not for publication
city, town Towson vicinity
county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name State of Maryland, University of Maryland System, Towson University Facilities Management Department
street and number 8000 York Road telephone Not Available
city, town Towson state MD zip code 21252

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 8199 folio 567
city, town Towson tax map 70 tax parcel 582 tax ID number 0920551583

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory

1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2181

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Constructed in 1903 as a Colonial Revival-style dwelling, the building was rehabilitated circa 1971 to serve as the Counseling Center for Towson University. The building is located on the 328-acre campus and is surrounded by academic buildings for the university. Set on a random rubble stone foundation, the house rises two-and-a-half stories in height. It has been reclad with vinyl German siding. Slate tiles adorn the hipped roof. Tuscan columns support a one-story wrap-around porch with an added ramp for the disabled adjoining the southern portion. The central entry features a panel-and-light single-leaf entry, multi-light leaded sidelights, and a divided three-light transom. A 1/1 vinyl replacement window lies to the south of the entry and a three-sided canted bay sits to the north, holding three 1/1 vinyl replacement windows. At the second story, the central bay is marked by a three-sided canted bay, like that on the first story. It is flanked by 1/1 replacement windows. A gabled dormer, featuring a pediment, pilasters, and a 1/1 vinyl replacement window, rests on the eastern roof slope. Three interior brick chimneys with corbeled caps rise above the crest of the roof.

The icehouse, which dates to the last half of the 19th century, is one story in height and one-bay wide. Constructed of random rubble stone, it has a hipped, asphalt shingle roof. The offset entry holds a single-leaf vertical board door with a wood lintel and square-edged wood surrounds.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2181

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates 1903, 1915, 1971 **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1903, 1971 ca.

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Constructed in 1903 for John J. Nelligan, Glen Esk is currently the Counseling Center for Towson University. The property was purchased in 1915 by the state of Maryland for use as a residence by the University's presidents.¹ The county educational system benefited from the 1866 organization of the State Normal School, now known as Towson University, which was established by an act of Assembly in 1865. The school, devoted to the education of teachers for public schools, was originally located in Baltimore City. It moved to Towson in 1915. The Counseling Center was established in 1966 and was relocated to Glen Esk in 1971. Currently, the Counseling Center contains thirteen offices, a library, reception room, and staff lounge and provides mental health services to over 15,000 students.

¹ "Counseling Center." Located on the Internet on May 31, 2001 at www.towson.edu/studentlife/ccenter/ccenter.html.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-2181

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County*. Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men*. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys*. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .50 Acre
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name Towson Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Glen Esk, located on Ward Drive, is currently part of Towson University in Towson. It has been associated with this location since its construction in 1903. It is located on Tax Map 70, Parcel 582.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	R. Weidlich, A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 29, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

US Quad: TOWSON
Scale: 1:24,000



BF 2181
WARD DRIVE
TOWSON
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-1845
6609 OSLER ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-2180
700 YORK ROAD
TOWSON
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-2488
1000 REBESTER AVENUE
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-2487
6508 CRESTWOOD ROAD
BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE COUNTY

(BALTIMORE WEST)
5562 1 SW



Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and Maryland
Bureau of Control Surveys and Maps

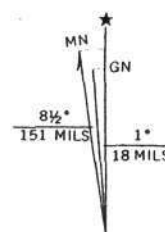
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1943. Topography by planetable surveys 1944
Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1957

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only
landmark buildings are shown

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from
aerial photographs taken 1966 and 1974. This information not
field checked

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



UTM GRID AND 1974 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

1
E



BA-2181

GLENESK
WARD DRIVE

TOWSON

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

APRIL 2001

MD SHPO

EAST ELEVATION

1 OF 3



BA-2181
GLENESK

WARD DRIVE
TOWSON

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES

APRIL 2001

MD SHPO

NORTHWEST CORNER

2 OF 3



BA-2181

GLEN ESK

WARD DRIVE

TOWSON

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

APRIL 2001

MD SHPO

ICE HOUSE

3 OF 3

BA- 2181 **GLEN ESK** - 1905 - 8100 York Road, Towson, (rear of Prettyman Hall dormitory, Towson State University). Large, square, two-story, frame and clapboard house in Queen Anne style, with square roof deck and railing. Prominent bay windows; wrap-around porches on three sides. Square ashlar foundation and porch-support piers of granite. Elegant entrance with transom and side-lights. Originally built for John J. Nelligan, a Baltimore bank officer and board member of the A.S. Abell Company. In 1913, the property was acquired by the State Norman School and was used as the residence of college principals and presidents from McFadden A. Newell to Dr. Earle T. Hawkins in 1969.

BA- 2181A **GLEN ESK SPRING HOUSE** - Before 1905 - 8100 York Road, Towson. Located northwest of Glen Esk and to the north of the university infirmary building. Square, stone, one-story, hip-roofed rural spring house, possibly a survival of the Albert house that preceeded the Nelligan mansion, Glen Esk. Possibly part of the Taylor estate shown on the 1882 county map.

Scale 200 FT = 1 IN.
HISTORIC SITES AT
TOWSON STATE COLLEGE